



#### REQUEST OF EARLY NOTIFICATION OF SERIAL NUMBER

Invenior(s): KODAMA, Hideroshi, YOKOYAMA, Koichiro, KOMURO Kiyoto, YASUE, Daluya, AKAHANE, Takashi, and ISONO, Masahiro Title: INK-JET REGORDING APPARATUS AND RECORDING

Title: INK-JET RECORDING APPARATUS AND RECORDING METHOD, THEREFOR

Atty Doc. #: 079055 Client: NGB CORPORATION

Filing Date: January 5, 2004 # Pgs. Spec/Abst: 105/2 Claims: 10

# Dwg. Sheets: 47 Decl. Copy Prelim Amdt. Yes

IDS/Prior Art: Yes Pr Doc: In parent Asgmt: In parent Fee: \$7.70.00

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## PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No: Q79055

Prior Group Art Unit: 2853

In re application of

KODAMA, Hidetoshi, et al.

Confirmation No.: To be determined

This is a Continuation of Appln. No.: 09/544,543

Appin. No.: 09/344,343

Filed: January 5, 2004 Prior Examiner: L. Tran

For: INK-JET RECORDING APPARATUS AND RECORDING METHOD THEREFOR

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

### MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows on the accompanying pages.

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT This is a Continuation of U.S. Appln. No. 09/544,543

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

This is a continuation of Application No. 09/544,543, filed April 6, 2000; the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

This is a Continuation of

U.S. Appln. No. 09/544,543

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the

application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-32 (canceled)

33. (new): A sheet feeding device for feeding a recording medium including a first

medium provided as a cut-sheet form and a second medium provided as a rolled-sheet form to a

recording section at which a recording operation is performed with respect to the recording

medium, by ejecting ink droplets thereto, the sheet feeding device comprising:

a first sheet feeder, operable to feed a first medium provided as a cut-sheet form stacked

thereon to the recording section; and

a second sheet feeder, adapted to be detachably attached to the first sheet feeder, and

operable to feed the second medium to the recording section.

34. (new): The sheet feeding device as set forth in claim 33, wherein the second medium

is fed to the recording section via the first sheet feeder.

35. (new): The sheet feeding device as set forth in claim 33, further comprising a third

sheet feeder, adapted to be detachably attached to the first sheet feeder in place of the second

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sheet feeder, and operable to feed a third medium in a cut-sheet form having a length longer than

a length of the first medium.

36. (new): The sheet feeding device as set forth in claim 33, further comprising a third

sheet feeder, adapted to be detachably attached to the second sheet feeder, and operable to feed a

third medium in a cut-sheet form having a length longer than a length of the first medium.

37. (new): The sheet feeding device as set forth in claim 33, wherein the first sheet feeder

comprises an edge guide member operable to commonly guide side edges of the first medium

and the second medium situated on the first sheet feeder.

38. (new): The sheet feeding device as set forth in claim 33, wherein the second medium

is held by the second sheet feeder without a restricting force.

39. (new): The sheet feeding device as set forth in claim 33, wherein:

the second sheet feeder comprises a detachable shaft member adapted to be inserted in a

core part of the second medium; and

the shaft member comprises a flange member provided in at least one longitudinal end of

the shaft member and formed with at least one flat portion.

40. (new): The sheet feeding device as set forth in claim 33, wherein the second sheet

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feeder comprises a cutter operable to cut the second medium.

41. (new): An ink-jet recording apparatus, comprising:

a recording head, operable to perform a recording operation with respect to a recording medium including a first medium provided as a cut-sheet form and a second medium provided as a rolled-sheet form, by ejecting ink droplets thereto;

a first sheet feeder, operable to feed the first medium stacked thereon to a first region opposite to the recording head; and

a second sheet feeder, adapted to be detachably attached to the first sheet feeder, and operable to feed the first region via the first sheet feeder.

42. (new): A first sheet feeding device adapted to be detachably attached to a second sheet feeding device for feeding a recording medium in a cut-sheet form, and operable to feed a rolled recording medium, via the first sheet feeding device, to a recording section at which a recording operation is performed with respect to either the recording medium in a cut-sheet form or the rolled recording medium.

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## **REMARKS**

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC

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Date: January 5, 2004

Grant K. Rowan

Registration No. 41,278



# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

KODAMA, Hidetoshi, et al.

re application of

This is a Continuation of

Appln. No.: 09/544,543

Confirmation No.: To be determined

Prior Group Art Unit: 2853

Docket No: Q79055

Filed: January 5, 2004

Prior Examiner: L. Tran

For:

INK-JET RECORDING APPARATUS AND RECORDING METHOD THEREFOR

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents were previously submitted in U.S. Application No. 09/544,543.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This is a Continuation of

U.S. Appln. No. 09/544,543

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement

under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such

document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not

waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any

listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue

Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373 CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: January 5, 2004

Grant K. Rowan

Registration No. 41,278

	<u> </u>	MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 A & B (06-03)
1	Comp	olete if Known
Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO	This is a Continuation	
O I P FINEORMATION DISCLOSURE	Application of Number	09/544,453
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<b>6</b>	Examiner Name	L. Tran
1 of 2	Attorney Docket Number	Q79055
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			U.S. P.	ATENT DOCUM	MENTS
Examiner	Cite	Document Number		Publication Date	
Initials*	No.1	Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
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		US 4,920,355		04/24/1990	Katerberg
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Examiner	Cite	ite Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date	Name of Patentee or		
Initials*	No.1	Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		EP	0 751 476	A2	01/02/1997	Kazuo Saito et al.	Yes
		JР	7-25007	Α	01/27/1995	Tanaka Kiyoharu	
		JР	6-182988	Α	07/05/1994	Motai Hidekazu	
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		JР	4-34274		03/23/92		
		JР	86004		03/31/97		

		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Cite Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.					
		Japanese Office Action 095160, dated April 5, 2000, citing references 3-49236, 4-34274, 9-86004 and 8-169580			
		Patent Abstracts of Japan 08169155 July 2, 1996	<del>                                     </del>		
		Patent Abstracts of Japan 09071009 March 18, 1997	<del></del>		
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Examiner Signature Date Considered		
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<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

	Comp	olete if Known
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT  (use as many sheets as necessary)	This is a Continuation of Application Number Confirmation Number Filing Date First Named Inventor Prior Art Unit Examiner Name	09/544,543 To be Determined January 5, 2004 KODAMA, Hidetoshi 2853 L. Tran
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			U.S.	PATENT DOCUM	ENTS
		Document Number			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
1		US			
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Initials*	No.1	Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
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